

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 35, lines 1 – 21 with the following replacement paragraph:

In the embodiment shown in Fig. 4, the high speed network 120n includes the ultra high-speed routers (UHR) 121 configured in a ring configuration. Although this embodiment shows the use of the IP network database (IND) 122, other configurations are also suitable. Where an IP network database 122 is utilized, it may be desirable to incorporate one or more data sets such as: a IP local number portability database (IP LNP) 422a which may be utilized for transferring local DN among service providers when a user changes their service provider; an IP caller name database (IP CNAME) 422b which may be utilized to provide a database of names relating to IP addresses and/or domain names; an IP line information database (IP LIDB) 422c which may provide alternative billing and allow flexibility in determining who pays for a call; and an IP 1-800 Database (IP 8YY) 422d which may provide a database of 1-800 numbers relating to the IP network 120a. Alternatively, the IP local number portability database may be located at another location, such as at an IP central station (IP Central) 430200. Where desired, a local service management system (LSMS) 150 may be arranged to provide management of the IP local number portability database. Where a local service management system 150 is utilized, a plurality of local service order administration (LSOA) units 152 may be coupled to the local service management system by, for example, a number portability administration center (NPAC) 151. In this manner, directory numbers may be transported among different service providers. In such a case, a NPAC 151 is generally coupled to the LSMS 150 and uses the LSMS 150 to synchronize the numbering databases and to coordinate the porting process.

Please replace the paragraph at page 37, lines 3 – 20 with the following replacement paragraph:

In one exemplary application of the voice over IP operations, the broadband residential gateway 300 digitizes the analog telephony signal using, for example, G.711 μ law coding (64 Kbps Pulse Code Modulation). The digital samples may then be

packetized in, for example, the broadband residential gateway 300 into IP packets. The broadband residential gateway 300 may be configured to encapsulate the IP packets into, for example, DOCSIS (Data Over Cable Service Interface Specifications) frames for transmission back to the head-end hub (HEH) 115 over the hybrid fiber-coaxial plant 112. The hybrid fiber-coaxial plant 112 may then be configured to transport signals for both upstream (to head-end hub ~~202~~ 115) and downstream (to the broadband residential gateway 300 and customer premise equipment 102) directions. Although the DOCSIS protocol is utilized in this example, any future protocol may also be used for the digitizing and packeting of data. Where the protocol changes, it may be desirable to download new operating code from, for example, IP central station 200 to the individual broadband residential gateways 300, to update the communication protocols dynamically. When new protocols are adopted, the IP central station may utilize, for example, the system management server 216 to download new protocol data into, for example, the protocol manager in the call manager 218 and the program store 330 in the broadband residential gateway 300.